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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s): GROEZINGER	Confirmation No. 7398
Application No.: 10/591,198	Art Unit: 1793
Filed: 30 Aug 2006	Examiner: LIN, KUANG Y
Title: WATER-SOLUBLE SALT CORES	
Attorney Docket No.: 1032/0108PUS1	

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

APPLICANT'S BRIEF IN REPLY TO THE EXAMINER'S ANSWER

Dear Sir:

The following brief is being submitted to address a new issue raised in the Examiner's Answer. Applicant submits that all claims are allowable over the applied references for the reasons provided in Applicant's Appeal Brief, and the arguments in support of allowability are maintained but are not repeated herein.

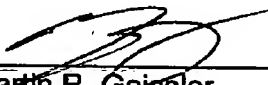
On page 5 of the Examiner's Answer, the examiner argues that "... in Halpern the purpose of adding parting agent, such as graphite, to the foundry mix is to reduce or prevent interaction between the molten metal and the surface of the mold and core...." It is respectfully submitted that this statement does not appear in Halpern and is not supported by Halpern or the other art of record. Moreover, facts about the formation of sand cores and their components are not well known and are not capable of instant and unquestionable demonstration as being true. It is therefore not appropriate to rely on official knowledge to establish such facts. MPEP 2112. Finally, assuming arguendo

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that such a fact about graphite could be established for sand and resin cores, the record contains no reason to extrapolate that graphite is useful in "any casting system" as stated in the Examiner's Answer. At the very least, the record would have to contain a reason that one of ordinary skill in the art would find it desirable to use graphite in a different casting system.

For the foregoing reasons, Applicant maintains that the examiner has not presented a prima facie case of obviousness in connection with any claim and that claims 1, 2 and 4-7 are in condition for allowance.

Respectfully Submitted,

Date: 11-06-09

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